

MINUTES OF MEETING MAY 8th, 1924.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board of Public Works, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, May 8th, 1924.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor
William S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller

A Committee representing the Maryland Historical Society and The Athenaeum, lessors of the premises occupied by State Departments at the northwest corner of St. Paul and Saratoga Streets, Baltimore, discussed with the Board a proposal it had for the sale of that property. The application of the Society and the action of the Board are covered in the following copies of correspondence:

Baltimore, February 25th, 1924.

To The Honorable Albert C. Ritchie,
Governor of Maryland and Chairman
of the Board of Public Works of Maryland,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Sir:-

The Athenaeum and The Maryland Historical Society, lessors in the lease of April 21st, 1919 to the Board of Public Works of Maryland, covering the premises situated at the northwest corner of St. Paul and Saratoga Streets, and in the supplemental agreement of March 30th, 1923, between the same parties, desire to sell the premises covered by said agreement of lease and supplemental agreement, and in compliance with the terms of said papers, we do herewith give you the right to purchase at the option of \$125,000. the premises in question. We are willing to accept said sum in consideration of effecting an immediate sale. We are in receipt of a bonafide offer, in writing, of \$125,000. for the property and before considering or accepting the same, we desire to give the Board of Public Works not only formal notice of our intention to sell at the price named, but also to give it the privilege of exercising the option provided for in the supplemental agreement of March 30th, 1923.

As the offer referred to is made upon the condition of acceptance within a limited time, we will appreciate it if you will advise us, with reasonable promptness, whether the lessee intends to exercise its option. We would respectfully request an answer prior to March 15th.

Very truly yours,

THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Signed)

By W. Hall Harris.
President

THE ATHENAEUM

By Clinton L. Riggs
Chairman of its Trustees.

Jesse N. Bowen.
Secretary to the Trustees.

February 28, 1924.

General Clinton L. Riggs,
LaTrobe Apartments,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear General Riggs:-

I beg to acknowledge your favor of February 25th, advising me of the offer which has been received by the Maryland Historical Society for the purchase of its property at \$125,000. I will let you know as promptly as I can what the attitude of the State will be. As I told you the other day when you called, this will depend very largely upon the outcome of certain proposed legislation now before the Legislature.

With kindest regards,

I am

Very truly yours,

Governor.

R-S

May 21, 1924.

General Clinton L. Riggs,
Baltimore,
Maryland.

Dear General Riggs:-

I beg to advise you that the Board of Public Works has decided that the State will not exercise its option to purchase the Athaneum Building at the corner of St. Paul and Saratoga Streets, in accordance with the privileges which the State has in its lease; and the State releases the Maryland Historical Society from any obligation to hold said property subject to the State's right to purchase; and if the Maryland Historical Society sells the said property the State will continue to pay to the purchaser the rent of \$9900 per annum which the Maryland Historical Society is now receiving.

Very truly yours,

E-

GOVERNOR

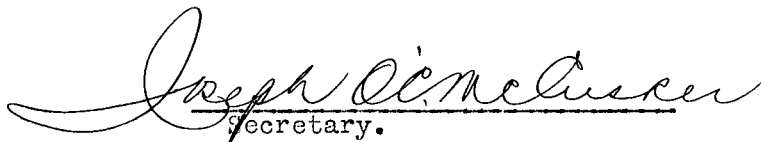
Mr. Samuel M. Shoemaker, on behalf of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, took up the question of having the State transfer to the Board of Education of Baltimore County, title to certain property at Pikesville, Baltimore County, being part of the Maryland Line Confederate Soldiers Home, the property desired being adjacent to the Pikesville Public School and to be used for school purposes. Mr. Shoemaker was advised that the Board had no authority to transfer title to State property without there being an act of the Legislature authorizing the transfer of title.

The Building Committee of Saint Mary's Female Seminary submitted to the Board plans and specifications for the rebuilding of the Seminary. The plans and specifications were approved. The Committee was authorized to proceed with the building of the Seminary, the contract for which was to be given to Hastings & Parsons, Inc., contractors,

Salisbury, Maryland, at their bid of \$120,000.70.

Joseph O'C. McCusker was elected Secretary to succeed Mrs. Katherine M. Ways, deceased, at salary of \$600.00 per annum. The position of stenographer was authorized to be filled, at salary of \$1500.00 per annum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary.